

To: Annette Ramirez/ClerkRec/COSLO@Wings,  
Cc: Kristi Gutierrez/Admin/COSLO@Wings,  
Bcc:  
Subject: Fw: City Comments re BOS 9/9 Item: Export of Groundwater Restriction  
From: Dan Buckshi/Admin/COSLO - Thursday 09/04/2014 04:14 PM

From: Jim App <JApp@prcity.com>  
To: "dbuckshi@co.slo.ca.us" (dbuckshi@co.slo.ca.us) <dbuckshi@co.slo.ca.us>  
Cc: "jbergman@co.slo.ca.us" <jbergman@co.slo.ca.us>, Ed Gallagher <EGallagher@prcity.com>  
Date: 09/04/2014 01:52 PM  
Subject: City Comments re BOS 9/9 Item: Export of Groundwater Restriction

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Dan –

Attached are the City's comments regarding the proposed restriction from exporting groundwater from the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

We would appreciate its distribution to the Board of Supervisors.

Thank You!



Jim 1117\_001.pdf



## CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES

*"The Pass of the Oaks"*

September 4, 2014

County of San Luis Obispo  
Board of Supervisors  
County Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

SUBJECT: Consideration of an Ordinance Regulating the Exportation of Groundwater

On September 9, 2014, your Board is scheduled to consider options for an ordinance regulating the export of groundwater (Agenda Item #33).

The City and County work together on a wide range of regional water issues, in particular the Nacimiento Water Project, Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, Paso Robles Groundwater Basin modeling update, proposed Water District formation in the North County, and the state's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Together, we adopted the 2011 Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan and participate in various water advisory committees.

The City agrees that available water supplies should be used to meet our communities' needs first and sees that while consideration of an export ban was not included in the County's 2015 Integrated Regional Water Management Program, 2012 Master Water Plan nor the 2010 Conservation and Open Space Element, it was included in the Blue Ribbon Committee's "Top Ranked Solutions" dated 2013. Preventing export of groundwater from the basin was listed in our jointly adopted Groundwater Basin Management Plan, which noted "At this time, additional information is necessary to quantify the occurrence of groundwater pumping for export from the Basin [to date this has not been quantified]".

Which leads to a question about the timing of this ordinance: Has the County developed additional information on existing exports of groundwater? The City is not aware that groundwater exportation of any appreciable extent is now occurring nor is any contemplated.

Considering that:

1. Previous studies give priority to water management actions other than regulating exports; and;
2. To the City's knowledge exports have not been observed or quantified so as to warrant immediate regulation;

...the City asks the Board to wait on adopting the export ordinance. For the Basin to be sustainably managed it is essential to concentrate efforts on use of available surface water, recycled water projects, and enhancements to groundwater recharge. Such sustainable actions are consistent with the already adopted Groundwater Basin Management Plan and more importantly, respond to the immediate need in the Basin for reliable water supplies.

These basinwide management efforts may well lead us to the conclusion that an export prohibition is an appropriate part of a comprehensive management approach. However an export prohibition should be part of comprehensive groundwater management and considered in light of all the sustainable actions that can be taken within the basin to meet public water demand.

Please feel free to contact me should you have questions regarding the City's input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. App', is written over a horizontal blue line.

James L. App  
City Manager

Copy: City Council  
Ed Gallagher, Community Development Director

Dan Buckshi, County Administrative Officer  
James Bergman, Planning Director